

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 04415 202008Z

70

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4415

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, GW, PL

SUBJECT: FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S HELSINKI BILATERAL WITH
POLISH PARTY SECRETARY GIEREK

THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF SPEAKING NOTES USED BY THE
FRG REP AT AUGUST 19 POLADS BRIEFING ON AUGUST 1 BILATERAL
DISCUSSIONS IN HELSINKI BETWEEN CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND POLISH
PARTY SECRETARY GIEREK.

BEGIN TEXT:

1. THE TALKS BETWEEN CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND MR. GIEREK
IN HELSINKI ON 1 AUGUST, 1975 PRIMARILY SERVED THE
CLARIFICATION OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS WHICH STILL
BURDENED THE GERMAN-POLISH RELATIONSHIP:
- EXIT PERMITS FOR PERSONS OF GERMAN ETHNIC ORIGIN
AND FOR PERSON FROM MIXED FAMILIES FROM POLAND;
- CONCLUSION OF AN OLD-AGE PENSION AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE
AGREEMENT;
- GRANTING OF A FINANCIAL CREDIT TO POLAND.

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PAGE 02 NATO 04415 202008Z

2. THE SCHMIDT-GIEREK TALKS DURING THE CSCE SUMMIT
MEETING AT HELSINK HAD BEEN PRECEDED BY SEVERAL
DAYS OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE DELEGATIONS HEADED
BY STATE SECRETARY GEHLHOFF AND POLISH VICE-FOREIGN

MINISTER CZYREK.

3. AFTER THE TALKS BETWEEN THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR AND THE FIRST PARTY SECRETARY, A JOINT PRESS STATEMENT WAS ISSUED ON 2 AUGUST.

4. THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS, WHICH WERE INITIALLED IN BONN BY STATE SECRETARY GEHLHOFF AND POLISH AMBASSADOR PIATKOWSKI AND WHICH WILL BE SIGNED IN WARSAW IN OCTOBER BY THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS, WERE MADE:

5. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WILL MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC A LONGTERM FINANCIAL CREDIT AMOUNTING TO 1 BILLION DEUTSCHMARKS AT A RATE OF INTEREST OF 2.5 PER CENT, PAYABLE IN THREE ANNUAL INSTALMENTS IN NOVEMBER 1975, NOVEMBER 1976 AND NOVEMBER 1977. THE CREDIT WILL BE GRANTED FOR 25 YEARS, OF WHICH THE FIRST FIVE YEARS WILL BE AMORTIZATION-FREE.

6. THE OLD-AGE PENSION AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE INSURANCE BENEFITS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THAT COUNTRY IN WHICH THE BENEFICIARY RESIDES. FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF ALL CLAIMS AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT PAYMENTS ALREADY MADE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WILL PAY A LUMP SUM OF 1.3 BILLION DEUTSCHMARKS.

7. SUBJECT TO THE AGREEMENT OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, POLAND AGREES TO GRANT EXIT PERMITS TO ANOTHER GROUP OF PERSONS ON THE BASIS OF THE INFORMATION OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT ON MEASURES FOR THE SOLUTION OF HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS OF 1970. ACCORDINGLY ABOUT 120.000 TO 125.000 PERSONS WILL RECEIVE EXIT PERMITS FROM POLAND WITHIN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS. APART FROM THIS, NO TIME LIMIT EXISTS FOR THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS BY THOSE PERSON MEETING THE CRITERIA STATED IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED INFORMATION.
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PAGE 03 NATO 04415 202008Z

8. MY AUTHORITIES ASSESS THESE ARRANGEMENTS AS FOLLOWS:
THE WARSAW TREATY WAS THE BASIS FOR AN IMPROVEMENT IN GERMAN-POLISH RELATIONS NOTICEABLE IN VARIOUS FIELDS. NEVERTHELESS, THIS RELATIONSHIP WAS OVERSHADOWED NOT ONLY BY REMINISCENCES OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR BUT ALSO BY THE UNSOLVED QUESTIONS RESULTING FROM THE WAR. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THOUGHT THAT THE SOLUTION OF THESE QUESTIONS REQUIRED SPECIAL EFFORTS IN THE INTEREST BOTH OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND OF THE OVERALL SITUATION IN EUROPE. THE GERMAN-POLISH RELATIONSHIP HAS PRIMARILY BEEN BURDENED BY
- THE UNSATISFACTORY HANDLING OF EXIT PERMITS FOR

PERSONS COVERED BY THE "INFORMATION" UNDER THE
WARSAW TREATY;
- THE POLISH DEMANDS FOR COMPENSATION PAYMENTS TO
NAZI VICTIMS.

9. FOR LEGAL REASONS AS WELL AS FOR REASONS OF PRINCIPLE,
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS AND IS UNABLE TO ACCOMMODATE
THE POLISH WISHES FOR COMPENSATION. HOWEVER, THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO GRANT POLAND A FINANCIAL
CREDIT AS WELL AS A LUMP SUM UNDER THE PENSIONS
AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO PROMOTE A SETTLEMENT OF THE
GERMAN-POLISH RELATIONSHIP, THUS PLACING IT ON A
NEW BASIS. THIS IS THE PURPOSE TO BE SERVED BY THE
THREE AGREEMENTS.

10. IT IS TRUE THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN
POLISH ASSURANCES FOR THE GRANTING OF EXIT PERMITS IN
SUCH NUMBERS THAT ALL GERMANS OF ETHNIC ORIGIN WHO
WISH TO LEAVE POLAND CAN DO SO WITHIN THE NEXT FOUR
YEARS. HOWEVER, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONCRETIZE THE
"INFORMATION" AND FILL IT WITH LIFE BY AGREEING ON
A LARGE NUMBER OF EXIT PERMITS. THIS WILL ENABLE
PEOPLE TO LEAVE IN NUMBERS WHICH HAVE ALWAYS BEEN
REFUSED BY THE POLISH SIDE IN THE LAST FEW YEARS. A
FURTHER CLAUSE IN THE AGREEMENT MAKES IT CLEAR THAT
THERE ARE NOT TIME LIMITS FOR THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS
BY PERSONS WHO MEET THE CRITERIA MENTIONED IN THE
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PAGE 04 NATO 04415 202008Z

INFORMATION.

11. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS
MADE WILL HAVE A LASTING AND POSITIVE EFFECT ON
GERMAN-POLISH RELATIONS, WILL FREE THEM FROM THE
SHADOWS OF THE PAST AND WILL REORIENTATE THEM
TOWARDS THE FUTURE. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT, OVER AND
ABOVE OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, THIS WILL MAKE AN
IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO DETENTE.

END TEXT.BRUCE

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